



January 20, 2017

Governor John Bel Edwards
P.O. Box 94004
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Dear Governor Edwards,

As the current President of the Louisiana Aging Network Association and an Executive Director of a council on aging, I am very concerned about the budget cuts proposed by Representative Lance Harris and the republican delegation.

I do realize that the state is in desperate need of more revenue. However, any cuts to the services provided to the Elderly of Louisiana could have devastating effects.

The Louisiana Aging Network Association encompasses all providers of Elderly Services in Louisiana. Members of our association provide all types of services such as meals, transportation, homemaking, and finding financial subsidies for medications, and energy assistance.

Every day the members of our association receive phone calls from potential clients for help with basic needs. The income that the elderly receives barely covers necessary medicines, rent and utilities. They have no funds left for meals or transportation to the grocery store and doctor visits.

The funding our members receive from the state helps to provide these basic needs to the elderly of Louisiana. Cuts to this funding could mean having to cut these services to the elderly which could be catastrophic to many of the elderly of Louisiana.

So please consider these consequences when making those budget cuts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa DeRouen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lisa" and last name "DeRouen" clearly distinguishable.

Lisa DeRouen
Louisiana Aging Network Association President